

REMARKS

Applicants amend the Cross Reference to Related Applications to set forth the priority claim in the above-identified application.

Applicants cancel claims 14-18 and 23-25 without prejudice to applicants' ability to file and obtain patent protection for claims directed to this cancelled subject matter in applications claiming priority to the present application under 35 U.S.C. §120, and request examination of amended claims 1-10, 12, 13, and 19-22, and new claims 26-28.

Applicants amend claim 1 to replace the term "pharmaceutically acceptable derivative" with ---pharmaceutically acceptable salt---.

Claims 1-10 are amended to delete reference to non-elected subject matter.

Applicants amend claim 8 to incorporate the specific compounds of Table 3 relating to the subject matter of the present application.

Applicants amend claim 9 to include the "effective amount" recitation.

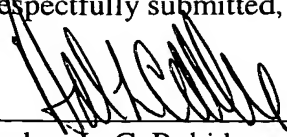
Claim 10 is amended to replace the term "therapeutic agent" with a list of specific therapeutics. Support for this amendment is found in the specification at page 55, lines 24-30.

Applicants add claim 26 to directed to the specific cancers known to be associated with Aurora2 expression. Specifically, claim 66 recites "melanoma, lymphoma, neuroblastoma, leukemia, or a cancer selected from colon, breast, lung, kidney, ovary, pancreatic, renal, CNS, cervical, prostate, or cancer of the gastric tract." Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at page 2, line 24 through page 3, line 2. The references cited therein clearly link Aurora2 protein with the recited cancers. *See* Bischoff et al., *EMBO J.*, 1998, 17, 3052-3065, submitted herewith as Exhibit 1. For the Examiner's review, Applicants have also submitted herewith, as Exhibit 2, a review article further linking Aurora2 expression with the various human cancers recited in amended claim 16. *See* Bischoff et al., *Trends in Cell Biology*, 1999, 9, 454-459.

None of these amendments add any new matter.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the foregoing remarks and enter the indicated amendments prior to substantive examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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